



June 3, 2026

## **Inmates connect during SMCI Family Day**

---

LEAKESVILLE – The South Mississippi Correctional Institution (SMCI) hosted a Family Day on Saturday, May 30, underscoring the facility's commitment to meaningful rehabilitation, enhanced morale, and the preservation of crucial family ties.

The event provided a vital space for incarcerated individuals to reconnect with their loved ones, reminding them of the supportive network awaiting their return to society. Solid emotional foundations and consistent family support are proven pillars in reducing recidivism and fostering successful reentry.

The atmosphere throughout the day was one of community and mutual respect. SMCI correctional staff and administrators actively mingled with visiting families and interacted directly with inmates in the positive, forward-looking environment. They joined in the lawn games, laughing and playing alongside the children present.

South Coast Church sponsored the event. Its staff and volunteers teamed seamlessly with SMCI personnel. Together, the group served a communal meal to inmates and their families, fostering an atmosphere of fellowship, hope, and community care.

Superintendent Huffman and his entire leadership team's active daylong participation highlighted a unified administration dedicated to transforming lives through human connection and proven correctional practices.

"Saturday's Family Day was an outstanding success, and it truly showcased what we can accomplish when we work together with purpose," Supt. Huffman said. "I want to extend my sincere appreciation to every staff member who stepped up, showed up, and helped create a safe, positive, and meaningful experience for the offenders and their families."

"Your engagement, professionalism, and commitment reflect the direction the Commissioner has set for MDOC. When staff and community partners come together, connect with families,

and lead by example, it reinforces the culture we are building at SMCI. Events like this show what progress looks like—and it happens because of your dedication," Supt. Huffman said. Supt. Huffman concluded, "I also want to give a special thank you to South Coast Church and their volunteers for their support and partnership. Your presence and willingness to serve added tremendous value to the day and helped strengthen the sense of community we are working to build."

